

South Carolina Workforce



TRENDS

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EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION
LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

SC Praised for Hydrogen Expo

Throughout the 2009 National Hydrogen Association conference, scientists and investors huddled in small groups in the halls of the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. It's in these informal meetings where ideas are hatched and business deals are formed. Columbia could reap the rewards after putting on a show for the organization that is leading the charge to make hydrogen fuel cells the energy source of the future.

"I feel confident there's going to be new business relationships and contacts that develop out of here," said Jeff Serfass, National Hydrogen Association president.

Still, the state's goal of becoming a fuel-cell power could be a long shot. That's because South Carolina must compete with California, which has a

more urgent need for green power and a denser population that provides a larger market.

SC hydrogen boosters hoped to develop leads during the show, and it happened, said Shannon Baxter-Clemmons, SC Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Alliance executive director.

Visitors were impressed with local hospitality and the public's interest in hydrogen and fuel cells, she said. "In these difficult economic times, that kind of love goes a long way."

The conference drew about 700 people from around the world. Attendance was down from previous years because of the recession, Serfass said. This was the second time in its history that the conference was moved outside Washington or California.



Hyundai-Kia fuel cell Borrego at the Ride & Drive

But those who attended were serious about their research and investments, Serfass and Baxter-Clemmons said.

"We didn't have people who were trying to get out of the office for a week and hang out," Baxter-Clemmons said. "They came because they're trying to keep their business alive. They came to make deals and find partners."

Anyone in the industry who wasn't aware of South Carolina's efforts came away impressed, Serfass said.

Whether it was the friendliness of volunteer hosts at the conference center or a meeting with the SC Research Authority, it is clear the state is competitive, he said. "This whole affair is just beginning because of the visibility you've got here," he said.

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Proterra's battery dominant fuel cell bus was available for test rides.

In the Southeast, there is no state that comes close to South Carolina in its research and development in the industry, Serfass said.

However, South Carolina is competing with California. That state will be a tough competitor when it comes to attracting business start-ups, said Dan Raudebaugh, executive director of the Center for Transportation and the Environment in Atlanta. His organization focuses on the South and making the link between research and the marketplace.

The U.S. Department of Energy has a plan to build infrastructure for the next generation of vehicles, and California is the starting point, Raudebaugh said. That will lead start-up companies to locate on the West Coast because that's where the early market will be, he said.

Robert Boyd, project development manager for The Linde Group, said his company, a German gas supplier, will follow the market. "I'm

not going to put a fueling station in a place where there are no vehicles."

Nonetheless, South Carolina is a step ahead of most other states, Raudebaugh said. There are missing pieces to the hydrogen fuel-cell puzzle, such as, how to store the fuel and how to deliver it to customers, and scientists and entrepreneurs are looking for help in finding solutions, he said.

That's why research centers at the University of South Carolina, Clemson, and the Savannah River National Laboratory are important, and public support is vital.

"South Carolina is one of the first in the Southeast to realize this and respond to it," Raudebaugh said. "Bringing industry here lets people know there's a market here. I think South Carolina gets it. You have a lot to be proud of."

*article by Noelle Phillips,
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*Photos by Alt Lee, Inc., Columbia Metropolitan
Convention & Visitors Bureau*

Reasons why South Carolina was chosen for the NHA Conference and Hydrogen Expo

- Emerging hydrogen and fuel cell markets: South Carolina has all the elements in place in each of the major emerging markets for the hydrogen industry (including some projects): materials handling, back-up power, telecom, transit, defense, airports and ports.
- Columbia will be home to an FTA National Fuel Cell Bus program project bringing a hybrid battery-fuel cell bus to the region in 2009.
- For companies targeting the defense industry: South Carolina has at least one major operation in every branch of the military and over 100,000 members of the armed forces. They include: Fort Jackson (Army), Charleston Air Force Base, Shaw Air Force Base, McIntyre Air Force Base, U.S. Naval Weapons Station, Marine Corps Air Station, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, southeastern hub for the U.S. Coast Guard small boat division, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary 7th District, and the Maritime Law Enforcement Academy (USCG).
- Bridgestone-Firestone of Aiken, boasts one of the largest private fleets of fuel cell powered forklifts in the U.S. with plans to integrate over 40 lift trucks into its operations.
- In 2008, Columbia Metropolitan Airport attracted 10 university teams to design a new \$3M hydrogen system for the airport through the Hydrogen Student Design Contest.
- The Port of Charleston is the 4th busiest port in the United States. More high crane container lifts are done at this port than any other in the Western Hemisphere. South Carolina is building a hydrogen infrastructure with two fueling stations commissioned in the state for 2009.

Source: www.hydrogenconference.org/columbia.asp

Palmetto Workforce Partnership Awards

A chemical firm, a well-known online jobs resource, and a major South Carolina hospital were chosen from over a hundred state businesses as winners of this year's Palmetto Workforce Partnership awards. The three awards honor businesses in the small (1-50 employees), medium (51-499) and large (500 and over) categories. Among the criteria used in selecting the winners, are quality of the work environment, impact on the community's quality of life, and support for human growth and development in the work place.

Small Business Award: Chemtrade Logistics

This international chemical plant in Carlisle, SC, produces sodium hydrosulfite, a chemical used as a bleaching agent by paper mills and clay manufacturers. Safety and efficiency are priorities at Chemtrade, where staff and management are expected to know more than just their jobs. Both sides of the industry learn what the other does — operators learn analytical chemistry, and laboratory technicians also learn how to run the plant — so that the plant has all the necessary skill sets on hand to keep running at full speed.

"At the hourly level we basically look for people who have had some sort of experience in the kind of work they'd be applying for, but most importantly we look for a good fit," said Manufacturing Manager Steve Klaeren. "That would be someone who can learn and is willing to learn, because the jobs we have here require a lot of training in-house and often we send people outside to get additional training and so we look for people that we know can grow with the company."

Medium Business Award: Monster.Com

This leading global resource for online careers and recruitment recently chose Florence as the site for its worldwide call center, and brought 240 jobs with it. Monster employees are experienced customer service agents who not only have a friendly attitude but are adept at trouble-shooting tough technical issues.

"We look at it as not just answering that phone, but actually helping people improve their careers and improve their lives," said Executive Vice-President Art O'Donnell. He said that Monster "made a strategic decision to bring the work from off-shore to on-shore. When we've had the work outsourced, we're more or less renting people. We made the decision that we would come to a location, Florence, SC, and invest in our own Monster employees. When you hire your own employees, you can invest in training, you can grow them, and you can increase the services you offer your customers over time."

Large Business Award: Spartanburg Regional Hospital System

This major hospital underwent a major expansion last year, adding 1,300 employees to meet the demand for services, including a new 48-bed and a 200-employee hospital in Greer. Meeting the demand for more services naturally means finding the right personnel. At Spartanburg Regional, that means not only offering a highly competitive benefits package, but also daycare for the children of employees, and encouraging employees to earn more by learning more. A tuition reimbursement program helps employees who are going back to school.

"We've had a lot of growth," said CEO Randy Nym. "We're seeing more patients than we've ever had before in the in-patient area."

"Spartanburg Regional is a great place to work, because we care so much for our employees," says Corporate Education Director Betty Warlick. "When you have happy employees, you have happy patients."



SC Employment Security Commission Executive Director Roosevelt "Ted" Halley (left), Keynote Speaker and Executive Director of Engenuity SC, Neil McLean (second from left), and SCESC Chairman McKinley Washington (right) presented awards to the Palmetto Workforce Partnership winners. Human Resource Coordinator Carolyn J. Cloud (second from right) accepted the award for Chemtrade Logistics in the Small Business category.



Monster.com in Florence won in the Medium Business category. Vice President of North American Services, Ronaldo Rando (middle) and Director of Customer Services, Victor Burgess (second from right) received their award from SC Employment Security Commission Executive Director Roosevelt "Ted" Halley (left), Keynote Speaker and Executive Director of Engenuity SC, Neil McLean (second from left), and SCESC Chairman McKinley Washington (right).



Spartanburg Regional Hospital System won in the Large Business category. Hospital Educator, Jo Vaughn (second from left), Student Program Specialist, Gloria Graves (third from left), Vice President of Hospital Services, Randy Nym (middle), and Director of Education, Betty Warlick (third from right) received their award from SC Employment Security Commission Executive Director Roosevelt "Ted" Halley (left), Keynote Speaker and Executive Director of Engenuity SC, Neil McLean (second from left), and SCESC Chairman McKinley Washington (right).

article and photos by Rodney Welch,
Department of Communications

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March 2009

Job losses continue to be widespread . . .

In March, the number of unemployed persons increased by 694,000 to 13.2 million, and the unemployment rate rose to 8.5%. Over the past 12 months, the number of unemployed persons has grown by about 5.3 million. The unemployment rates continued to trend upward for adult men (8.8%), adult women (7.0%), whites (7.9%), and Hispanics (11.4%). The jobless rates for blacks (13.3%) and teenagers (21.7%) were little changed.

Regional and State...The West posted the highest regional jobless rates, 9.8%, followed by the Midwest at 9.0%. The Northeast recorded the lowest rate at 7.9%. Michigan again reported the highest jobless rate (12.6%). The states with the next highest rates were Oregon, 12.1%; **South Carolina, 11.4%**; California, 11.2%; North Carolina, 10.8%; Rhode Island, 10.5%; Nevada, 10.4%; and Indiana, 10.0%. Nine additional states and the District of Columbia recorded unemployment rates of at least 9.0%. The California and North Carolina rates were the highest on record for those states. (All state series began in 1976.) North Dakota registered the lowest unemployment rate, 4.2%. Oregon reported the largest jobless rate increase from a year earlier (+6.6 percentage points), followed by South Carolina (+5.5 points), North Carolina (+5.4 points) and Michigan (+5.0 points).

Nonfarm Employment Down...Total nonfarm payroll employment continued to fall sharply (-663,000) in March. Since the recession began in December 2007, 5.1 million jobs have been lost, with almost two-thirds (3.3 million) of the decrease occurring in

the last 5 months. In March, job losses were large and widespread across the major industry sectors. Manufacturing fell by 161,000 jobs in March, with widespread losses occurring among the Component industries. The largest decreases occurred in Fabricated Metal Products (-28,000), Machinery (-27,000), and Transportation Equipment (-26,000). Construction lost 126,000 jobs in March, and has fallen by 1.3 million since peaking in January 2007. Employment fell in Specialty Trade Contractors (-83,000) and Construction of Buildings (-33,000). Mining and Logging declined by 18,000 in March. Professional and Business Services fell by 133,000. More than half of the loss occurred in Temporary Help Services, which cut 72,000 jobs in March, and 767,000 since December 2007. Retail Trade fell by 48,000. Since peaking in November 2007, employment in the industry has declined by an average of 44,000 per month. Wholesale Trade fell by 31,000, with nearly the entire decline occurring in Durable Goods. Financial Activities continued to fall in March (-43,000). The number of jobs in this industry has dropped by 495,000 since a peak in December 2006. Leisure and Hospitality shed 40,000 jobs in March, with most of the decrease in the Accommodation industry (-23,000). Leisure and Hospitality has lost 351,000 jobs since a peak in December 2007. Transportation and Warehousing lost 34,000 jobs in March, raising total job losses to 265,000 since a peak in December 2007. Truck Transportation (-15,000) declined. Health care continued to trend up in March (14,000); however, monthly job growth in the first quarter averaged 17,000 compared with 30,000 per month in 2008.

Average Hourly and Weekly Earnings... In March, the average workweek for production and non-supervisory workers on private non-farm payrolls fell by 0.1 hour to 33.2 hours, seasonally adjusted. This was the lowest level on record for the series, which began in 1964. The

manufacturing workweek decreased by 0.2 hour to 39.3 hours. The average hourly earnings of production and non-supervisory workers on private non-farm payrolls rose by 3 cents, or 0.2%, seasonally adjusted. This followed a gain of 4 cents in February. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings increased by 3.4%, and average weekly earnings rose by 1.5%.

Producer Price Index (PPI) Increases...The Producer Price Index, which measures the cost of a basket of goods and services from the perspective of the seller, decreased 1.2% in March, seasonally adjusted. This decline followed a 0.1% advance in February and an 0.8% increase in January. At the earlier stages of processing, prices received by producers of intermediate goods fell 1.5% after decreasing 0.9% a month earlier, and the crude goods index declined 0.3% following a 4.5% drop in February.

Consumer Prices Up...The Consumer Price Index (CPI), which measures the average change in prices of goods and services from the purchaser's perspective, increased 0.2% in March, before seasonal adjustment. However, on a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI decreased 0.1% in March, after rising 0.4% in February. The decrease was due to a downturn in the energy index, which declined 3.0% in March after rising 3.3% the previous month. All the energy indexes decreased, particularly the indexes for fuel oil, natural gas, and motor fuel. The food index declined 0.1% for the second straight month to virtually the same level as October 2008. The index for all items, less food and energy, increased 0.2%. An 11.0% increase in the index for tobacco and smoking products accounted for over 60% of the March rise, with a 0.6% increase in the new vehicles index also contributing.

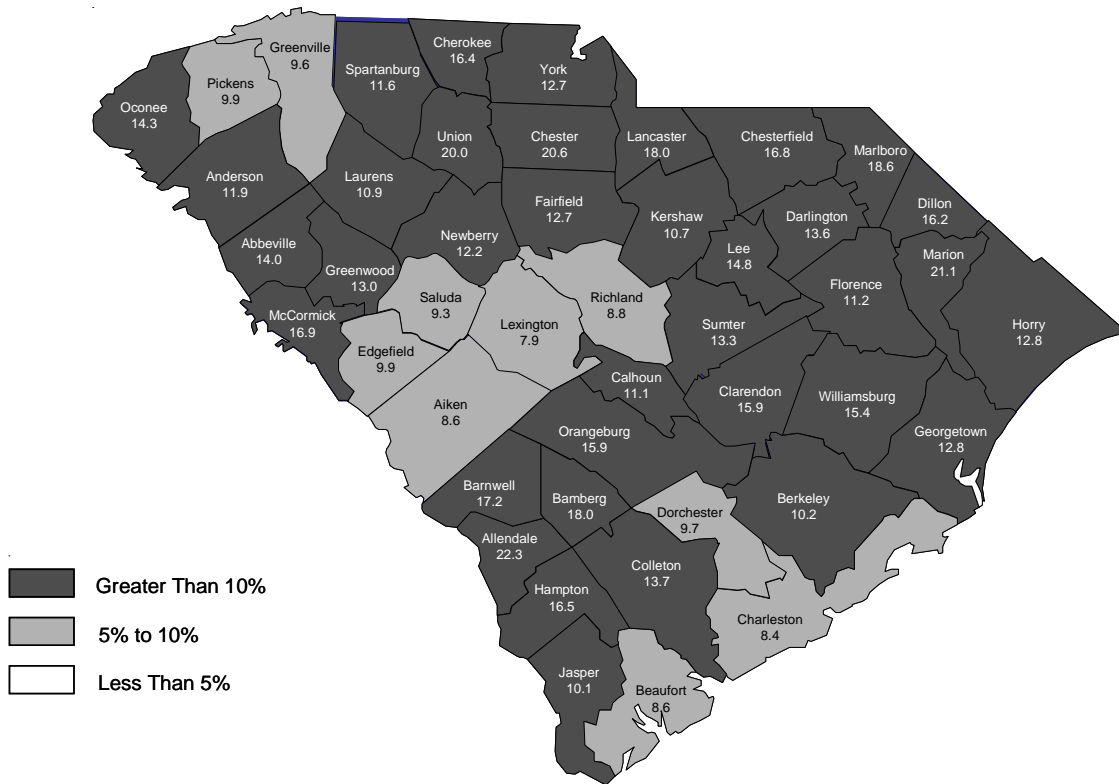
Sources:

- Bureau of Labor Statistics
- U.S. Department of Labor

edited by S.T. McLaughlin and J. Moon

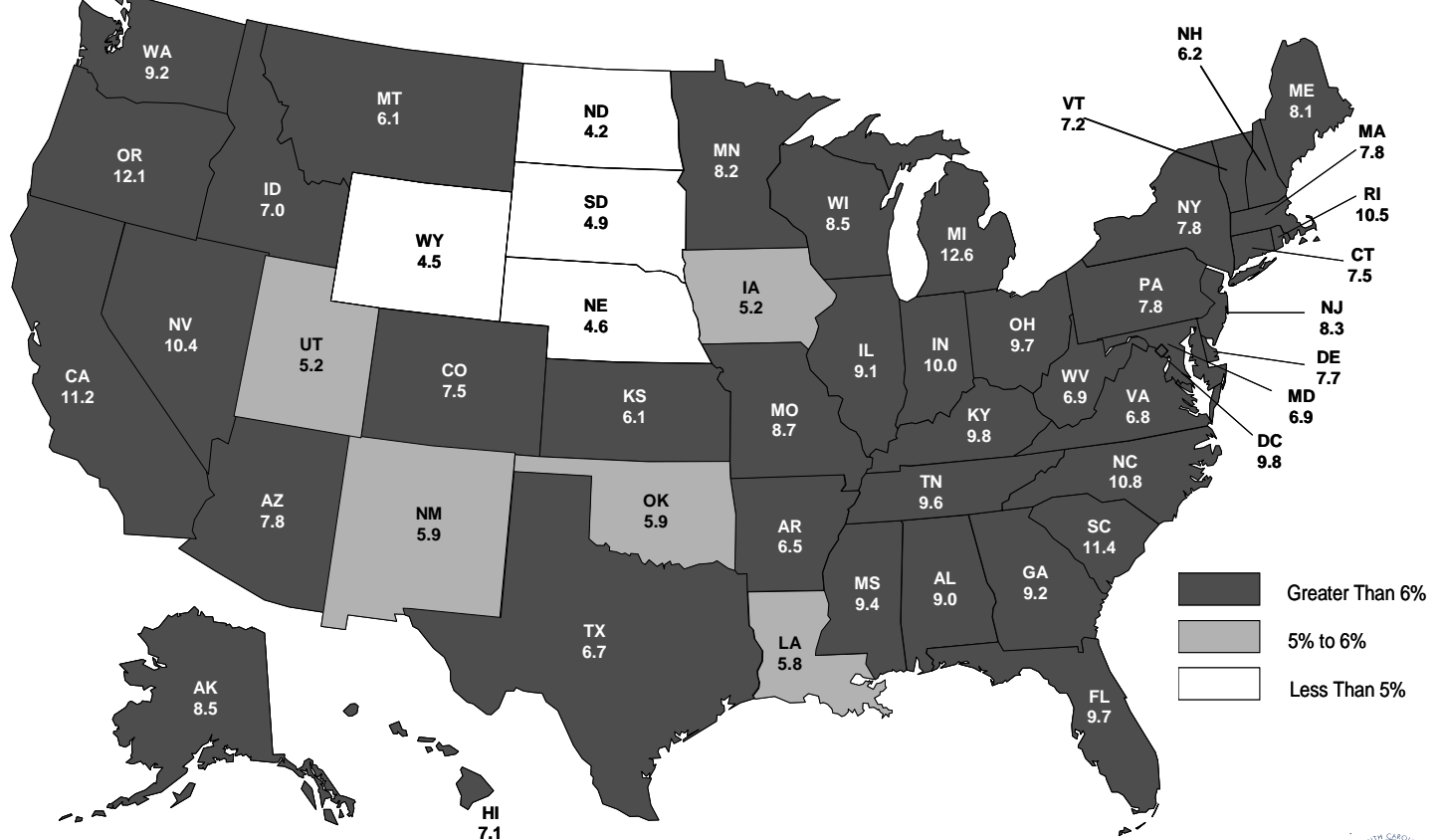
South Carolina Unemployment Rates by County

March 2009 State Unemployment Rate = 11.4%



United States Unemployment Rates by State

March 2009 National Unemployment Rate = 8.5%



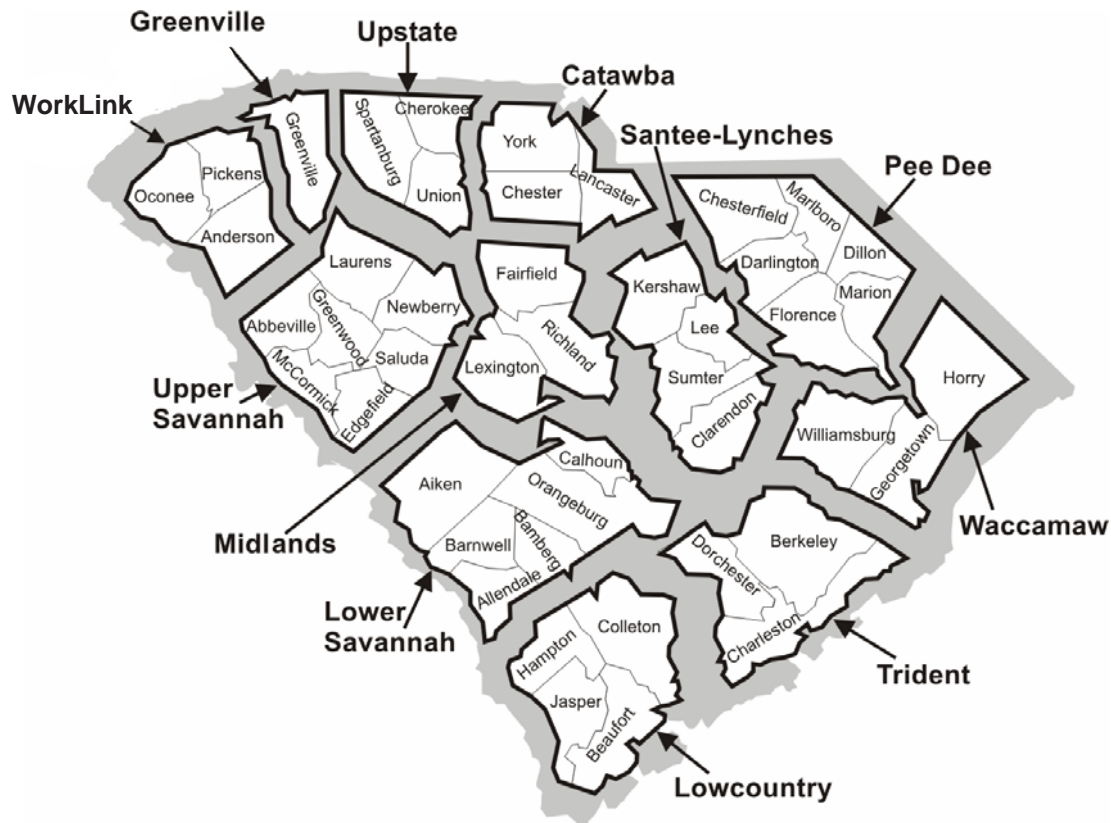
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Labor Force and Unemployment by County and Metropolitan Area (MA) March 2009

County/MA	Labor Force			Unemployment			Unemployment Rate (%)		
	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008
Abbeville	11,501	11,639	11,400	1,615	1,763	826	14.0	15.1	7.2
Aiken	75,995	76,445	73,746	6,571	7,164	3,320	8.6	9.4	4.5
Allendale	3,362	3,373	3,240	750	787	463	22.3	23.3	14.3
Anderson MSA	87,543	87,171	85,092	10,411	10,952	4,911	11.9	12.6	5.8
Bamberg	6,287	6,190	6,233	1,129	1,041	553	18.0	16.8	8.9
Barnwell	9,058	9,059	8,688	1,557	1,556	769	17.2	17.2	8.9
Beaufort	62,939	63,237	62,453	5,425	5,465	2,606	8.6	8.6	4.2
Berkeley	79,976	80,303	78,037	8,150	8,194	3,946	10.2	10.2	5.1
Calhoun	7,171	7,147	6,839	794	805	370	11.1	11.3	5.4
Charleston	176,000	176,339	173,538	14,737	14,442	7,190	8.4	8.2	4.1
Cherokee	25,884	26,188	25,534	4,241	4,418	1,786	16.4	16.9	7.0
Chester	15,750	15,819	15,164	3,243	3,270	1,597	20.6	20.7	10.5
Chesterfield	19,121	19,259	18,331	3,210	3,361	1,311	16.8	17.5	7.2
Clarendon	12,513	12,481	12,357	1,988	2,000	981	15.9	16.0	7.9
Colleton	16,752	16,812	16,321	2,301	2,379	1,014	13.7	14.2	6.2
Darlington	32,851	32,573	31,026	4,456	4,282	2,085	13.6	13.1	6.7
Dillon	13,028	13,044	12,749	2,110	2,174	1,104	16.2	16.7	8.7
Dorchester	63,958	64,251	62,346	6,224	6,290	2,792	9.7	9.8	4.5
Edgefield	11,220	11,327	10,824	1,106	1,234	564	9.9	10.9	5.2
Fairfield	11,497	11,478	11,147	1,460	1,496	966	12.7	13.0	8.7
Florence	65,380	64,946	62,798	7,346	7,124	3,647	11.2	11.0	5.8
Georgetown	30,403	30,251	30,034	3,903	3,939	1,850	12.8	13.0	6.2
Greenville	228,271	228,305	222,546	22,002	21,353	9,742	9.6	9.4	4.4
Greenwood	29,948	30,253	30,424	3,906	4,077	1,927	13.0	13.5	6.3
Hampton	7,823	7,768	7,577	1,287	1,254	530	16.5	16.1	7.0
Horry/Myrtle Beach MSA	129,673	127,080	128,490	16,571	18,033	7,408	12.8	14.2	5.8
Jasper	10,052	10,141	9,878	1,016	1,064	475	10.1	10.5	4.8
Kershaw	30,996	30,835	29,704	3,329	3,319	1,640	10.7	10.8	5.5
Lancaster	29,626	29,867	29,433	5,342	5,480	2,999	18.0	18.3	10.2
Laurens	34,045	34,257	33,423	3,696	3,808	2,113	10.9	11.1	6.3
Lee	8,264	8,197	8,011	1,224	1,223	633	14.8	14.9	7.9
Lexington	135,106	134,260	131,362	10,675	10,509	5,144	7.9	7.8	3.9
McCormick	13,302	13,300	12,649	2,806	2,893	1,430	21.1	21.8	11.3
Marion	11,804	11,919	11,517	2,198	2,333	1,185	18.6	19.6	10.3
Marlboro	3,441	3,541	3,425	581	678	333	16.9	19.1	9.7
Newberry	18,550	18,603	18,392	2,259	2,388	973	12.2	12.8	5.3
Oconee	31,057	30,862	30,131	4,451	4,222	1,759	14.3	13.7	5.8
Orangeburg	40,279	40,082	40,943	6,399	6,206	3,101	15.9	15.5	7.6
Pickens	59,993	60,065	58,452	5,912	5,805	2,657	9.9	9.7	4.5
Richland	184,066	182,450	179,125	16,273	15,573	8,922	8.8	8.5	5.0
Saluda	9,393	9,346	9,069	878	877	431	9.3	9.4	4.8
Spartanburg MSA	139,629	140,166	136,005	16,190	15,969	7,130	11.6	11.4	5.2
Sumter MSA	42,339	42,604	43,333	5,624	5,791	3,128	13.3	13.6	7.2
Union	12,326	12,299	11,532	2,461	2,401	1,028	20.0	19.5	8.9
Williamsburg	15,554	15,547	15,193	2,403	2,492	1,381	15.4	16.0	9.1
York	107,263	109,959	105,609	13,583	15,598	5,779	12.7	14.2	5.5
Multi-County MSAs									
Charleston MSA	319,934	320,893	313,921	29,111	28,926	13,928	9.1	9.0	4.4
Columbia MSA	378,228	375,515	367,245	33,408	32,579	17,473	8.8	8.7	4.8
Florence MSA	98,231	97,519	93,824	11,802	11,406	5,732	12.0	11.7	6.1
Greenville MSA	322,309	322,627	314,420	31,610	30,966	14,511	9.8	9.6	4.6
South Carolina*	2,185.5	2,189.3	2,131.3	248.6	238.4	125.7	11.4	10.9	5.9
United States*	154,050	154,210	153,840	13,160	12,470	7,820	8.5	8.1	5.1

*Seasonally adjusted; in thousands

Unemployment Rates by Workforce Investment Area (WIA) March 2009



WIA Areas	Mar. 2009	WIA Areas	Mar. 2009	WIA Areas	Mar. 2009
CATAWBA WIA	14.5	MIDLANDS WIA	8.6	UPPER SAVANNAH WIA	11.9
Chester County	20.6	Fairfield County	12.7	McCormick County	16.9
Lancaster County	18.0	Richland County	8.8	Abbeville County	14.0
York County	12.7	Lexington County	7.9	Greenwood County	13.0
				Newberry County	12.2
				Laurens County	10.9
GREENVILLE WIA	9.6	PEE DEE WIA	14.2	Edgefield County	9.9
Greenville County	9.6	Marion County	21.1	Saluda County	9.3
		Marlboro County	18.6		
		Chesterfield County	16.8		
		Dillon County	16.2	UPSTATE WIA	12.9
LOWCOUNTRY WIA	10.3	Darlington County	13.6	Union County	20.0
Hampton County	16.5	Florence County	11.2	Cherokee County	16.4
Colleton County	13.7			Spartanburg County	11.6
Jasper County	10.1	SANTEE-LYNCHES WIA	12.9		
Beaufort County	8.6	Clarendon County	15.9	WACCAMAW WIA	13.0
		Lee County	14.8	Williamsburg County	15.4
LOWER SAVANNAH WIA	12.1	Sumter County	13.3	Horry County	12.8
Allendale County	22.3	Kershaw County	10.7	Georgetown County	12.8
Bamberg County	18.0				
Barnwell County	17.2	TRIDENT WIA	9.1	WORKLINK WIA	11.6
Orangeburg County	15.9	Berkeley County	10.2	Oconee County	14.3
Calhoun County	11.1	Dorchester County	9.7	Anderson County	11.9
Aiken County	8.6	Charleston County	8.4	Pickens County	9.9

Statewide Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment March 2009

Industry	Net Change From:				
	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1,850,200	1,843,300	1,944,500	6,900	-94,300
Total Private	1,503,500	1,497,500	1,594,400	6,000	-90,900
Goods Producing	326,900	331,400	367,000	-4,500	-40,100
Service Providing	1,523,300	1,511,900	1,577,500	11,400	-54,200
Private Service Providing	1,176,600	1,166,100	1,227,400	10,500	-50,800
Mining & Logging	4,200	4,200	4,500	0	-300
Construction	103,500	105,100	116,000	-1,600	-12,500
Construction of Buildings	26,500	26,600	30,000	-100	-3,500
Heavy & Civil Engineering	13,500	13,300	16,100	200	-2,600
Specialty Trade Contractors	63,500	65,200	69,900	-1,700	-6,400
Manufacturing	219,200	222,100	246,500	-2,900	-27,300
<i>Durable Goods</i>	120,900	123,100	138,100	-2,200	-17,200
Primary Metal & Fabricated Metal Products	33,300	33,300	33,600	0	-300
Computer & Electronic Products, Electrical Equip., Appliance & Component	18,100	18,300	18,600	-200	-500
Transportation Equipment	30,700	30,800	31,900	-100	-1,200
<i>Nondurable Goods</i>	98,300	99,000	108,400	-700	-10,100
Food, Beverage & Tobacco Products	18,600	18,500	18,700	100	-100
Textile Mills, Textile Mills Products & Apparel	23,000	23,600	28,800	-600	-5,800
Petroleum, Coal Products & Chemical	20,500	20,600	21,500	-100	-1,000
Plastics & Rubber Products	20,200	20,200	20,700	0	-500
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	358,100	355,000	376,100	3,100	-18,000
Wholesale Trade	67,500	67,700	71,700	-200	-4,200
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	34,300	34,300	38,300	0	-4,000
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	20,700	20,700	20,800	0	-100
Retail Trade	226,600	223,300	239,500	3,300	-12,900
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	28,900	28,600	30,100	300	-1,200
Food & Beverage Stores	42,100	41,900	43,300	200	-1,200
Health & Personal Care Stores	16,000	15,900	15,600	100	400
Clothing & Clothing Accessories Stores	18,500	18,000	21,900	500	-3,400
General Merchandise Stores	46,500	44,900	50,600	1,600	-4,100
Transportation, Warehouse & Utilities	64,000	64,000	64,900	0	-900
Utilities	13,100	13,100	12,500	0	600
Transportation & Warehousing	50,900	50,900	52,400	0	-1,500
Information	29,500	29,500	28,200	0	1,300
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	6,800	6,800	6,900	0	-100
Telecommunications	13,500	13,400	13,300	100	200
Financial Activities	102,900	103,700	106,300	-800	-3,400
Finance & Insurance	74,400	75,400	76,400	-1,000	-2,000
Credit Intermediation & Related Activities	34,700	35,400	38,000	-700	-3,300
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	28,500	28,300	29,900	200	-1,400

Note: Due to U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics restrictions, some industry employment estimates published in prior years will no longer be available. Monthly estimates for metropolitan areas with a population less than 50,000 will not be published; therefore, data for the Sumter MSA will not be available.

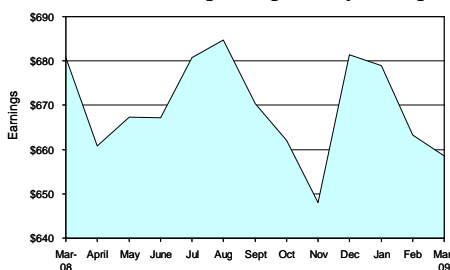
Statewide Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (continued from previous page)

Industry	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Net Change From:	
				Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008
Professional and Business Services	207,500	206,000	223,600	1,500	-16,100
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	76,100	77,000	77,100	-900	-1,000
Architectural, Engineering & Related Services	20,900	21,000	20,500	-100	400
Management of Companies & Enterprises	15,500	15,500	15,400	0	100
Administrative & Support, Waste Mgt. & Remediation Svcs	115,900	113,500	131,100	2,400	-15,200
Administrative & Support Services	105,900	103,300	119,800	2,600	-13,900
Employment Services	44,600	43,800	53,600	800	-9,000
Services to Buildings & Dwellings	31,200	30,500	33,000	700	-1,800
Educational and Health Services	209,000	207,600	207,200	1,400	1,800
Health Care & Social Assistance	172,400	171,000	171,800	1,400	600
Ambulatory Health Care Services	68,300	67,300	66,700	1,000	1,600
Hospitals	42,900	42,700	42,500	200	400
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	36,200	36,000	35,800	200	400
Leisure and Hospitality	198,700	193,100	214,700	5,600	-16,000
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	27,400	26,000	27,000	1,400	400
Amusement, Gambling & Recreation	22,800	21,500	22,200	1,300	600
Accommodation & Food Services	171,300	167,100	187,700	4,200	-16,400
Accommodation	26,000	25,400	28,500	600	-2,500
Food Services & Drinking Places	145,300	141,700	159,200	3,600	-13,900
Other Services (except Public Administration)	70,900	71,200	71,300	-300	-400
Repair & Maintenance	16,900	16,900	17,900	0	-1,000
Personal & Laundry Services	17,900	17,500	17,700	400	200
Total Government	346,700	345,800	350,100	900	-3,400
Federal Government	30,500	30,500	29,900	0	600
State Government	100,500	99,700	101,000	800	-500
State Government Education	45,800	45,300	45,500	500	300
Local Government	215,700	215,600	219,200	100	-3,500
Local Government Education	112,100	112,200	113,600	-100	-1,500

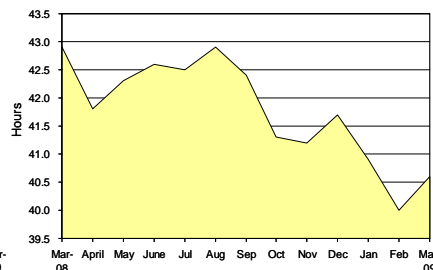
March 2009 Average Hours and Earnings

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings (\$)			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings (\$)		
	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008
Manufacturing	658.53	663.20	680.82	40.6	40.0	42.9	16.22	16.58	15.87
Durable Goods	697.56	681.60	696.84	43.3	42.1	44.3	16.11	16.19	15.73
Nondurable Goods	613.50	640.29	660.48	37.5	37.4	41.1	16.36	17.12	16.07

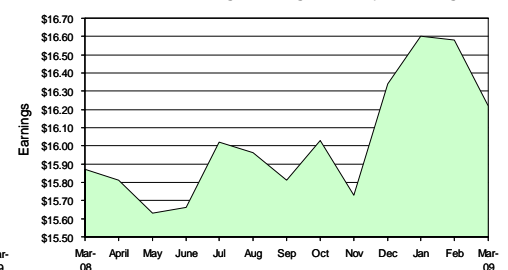
Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings



Manufacturing Average Weekly Hours



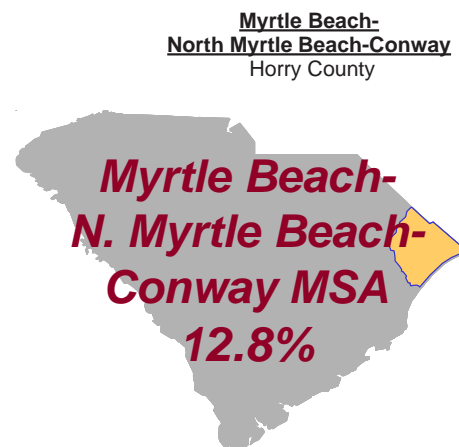
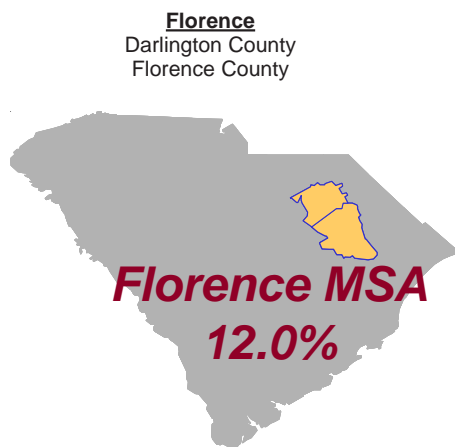
Manufacturing Average Hourly Earnings



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in the Major Metropolitan Areas March 2009

Industry	Florence			Myrtle Beach		
	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008
Total Nonagricultural Employment	87,300	87,000	89,000	114,900	110,200	122,800
Total Private	70,500	70,200	71,900	99,300	94,900	107,500
Goods Producing	15,700	15,900	17,300	12,500	12,600	14,400
Service Providing	71,600	71,100	71,700	102,400	97,600	108,400
Private Service Providing	54,800	54,300	54,600	86,800	82,300	93,100
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	17,000	16,800	17,500	26,300	25,700	26,000
Retail Trade				21,300	20,900	21,100
Leisure & Hospitality				29,100	26,300	32,900
Accommodations & Food Services				23,700	21,300	27,300
Food Services & Drinking Places				14,700	14,000	18,400
Total Government	16,800	16,800	17,100	15,600	15,300	15,300
Federal Government	700	700	800	600	600	600
State Government	3,400	3,300	3,600	3,500	3,300	3,500
Local Government	12,700	12,800	12,700	11,500	11,400	11,200

March 2009 Unemployment Rates for Metropolitan Statistical Areas



Palmetto Progress . . . News on Job Creation in South Carolina's Economy

Cherokee County — Snak-Time Foods plan to expand their Cherokee County facility and add 40 new jobs. The company produces biscuit sandwiches and deli sandwiches for school lunch programs and the retail market. Snak-time Foods is located in Gaffney. The company will make an \$800,000 investment to expand their facility. The company seeks to increase its market presence with a new product line of frozen biscuits. Snak-Time Foods was founded in 1995 and is based in nearby Boiling Springs, North Carolina. (*WSPA-TV News Channel 7 at wspa.com*)

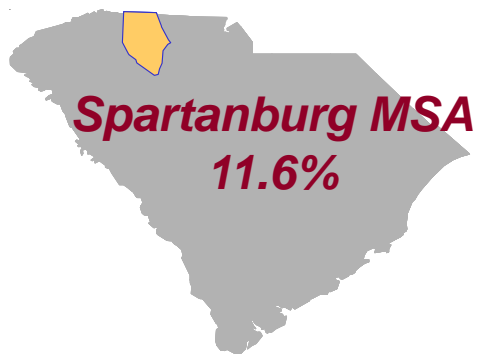
York County — FedEx Ground plans to open a regional distribution center in Fort Mill, bringing 22 full-time jobs to York County. The company is an offshoot of FedEx Corp. and expects the \$14 million facility to employ up to 84 part-time workers and 99 independent contractors. The 113,000-square-foot facility is scheduled to open by late October. It straddles the state line on Carowinds Boulevard, about a half-mile west of Interstate 77. The site is viewed as ideal because it offers easy access to Interstate 77, as well as Charlotte-Douglas International Airport, which is

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in the Major Metropolitan Areas March 2009

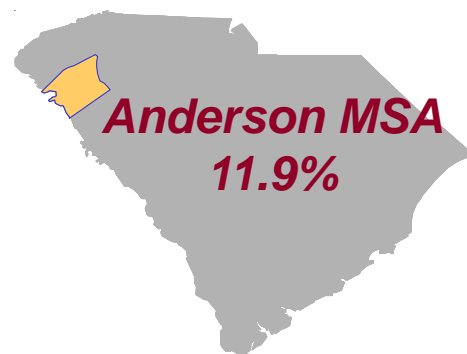
Industry	Spartanburg			Anderson		
	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008
Total Nonagricultural Employment	124,100	124,600	129,800	61,700	60,400	64,300
Total Private	105,000	105,400	110,200	49,600	48,300	52,000
Goods Producing	31,900	32,200	34,800	15,800	15,900	16,900
Service Providing	92,200	92,400	95,000	45,900	44,500	47,400
Private Service Providing	73,100	73,200	75,400	33,800	32,400	35,100
Manufacturing	25,800	26,000	27,100	12,100	12,200	13,100
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	25,200	25,100	27,000	11,400	11,300	12,000
Retail Trade	13,500	13,300	14,200	8,200	8,100	8,500
Total Government	19,100	19,200	19,600	12,100	12,100	12,300
Federal Government	500	500	500	300	300	300
State Government	3,800	3,800	4,100	2,100	2,100	2,100
Local Government	14,800	14,900	15,000	9,700	9,700	9,900

March 2009 Unemployment Rates for Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Spartanburg
Spartanburg County



Anderson
Anderson County



15 miles to the north. The FedEx shop would be the second such facility in York County, joining a UPS distribution center in the Rock Hill Industrial Park. The company is headquartered in Pittsburgh and has more than 71,000 employees and independent contractors. (*Heraldonline.com*)

Sumter County —Synovus, the financial giant that is the parent company of the National Bank of South Carolina (NBSC), will consolidate its call center operations in Sumter County. It's a \$1.7 million investment in the state, which will provide about 100 jobs next year

when the call center opens. The call center will service all 30 of Synovus' banks, which includes NBSC. NBSC was founded in Sumter in 1905. (*wistv.com*)

Georgetown County —Renewed World Energies (RWE) plans to locate a new facility in Georgetown County. RWE plans to convert cultivated algae into oil for diesel fuel and jet fuel production. The company will also build an oil processing plant. The \$29 million investment is expected to generate 60 new jobs. RWE expects to have the operations at full capacity by mid to late 2010. (*WCBD-TV Channel 2 at counton2.com*)

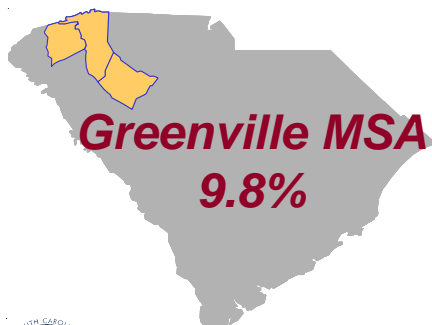
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in the Major Metropolitan Areas March 2009

Industry	Greenville			Columbia			Charleston		
	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008
Total Nonagricultural Employment	311,800	311,800	320,600	361,800	358,900	366,600	290,300	290,700	299,500
Total Private	267,200	267,100	276,200	281,500	279,100	286,200	232,300	232,700	242,000
Goods Producing	57,600	57,900	61,100	48,700	48,900	50,900	39,900	40,300	43,100
Service Providing	254,200	253,900	259,500	313,100	310,000	315,700	250,400	250,400	256,400
Private Service Providing	209,600	209,200	215,100	232,800	230,200	235,300	192,400	192,400	198,900
Mining, Logging & Construction	16,500	16,500	17,900	19,100	19,100	20,200	18,700	18,900	20,200
Manufacturing	41,100	41,400	43,200	29,600	29,800	30,700	21,200	21,400	22,900
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	62,000	62,200	65,500	67,700	66,800	69,400	55,200	54,900	57,300
Wholesale Trade	14,600	14,700	14,700	16,100	16,100	16,500	8,800	8,800	8,700
Retail Trade	35,000	35,100	38,200	40,100	39,200	41,200	34,300	33,900	36,500
Food & Beverage Stores				6,100	6,100	6,400			
General Merchandise Stores				8,500	8,200	9,200			
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	12,400	12,400	12,600	11,500	11,500	11,700	12,100	12,200	12,100
Information	7,200	7,200	6,700	6,100	6,100	5,900	5,800	5,800	5,600
Financial Activities	15,000	15,000	15,400	30,000	30,100	30,200	13,700	13,700	14,100
Credit Intermediation & Related Act.				7,900	7,900	8,000			
Professional & Business Services	52,300	52,200	53,500	39,000	38,000	41,500	40,800	41,400	43,000
Admin., Supp., Waste Mgt & Rem. Svc.	31,000	30,300	32,200	20,000	19,600	21,400	22,700	22,500	23,400
Educational & Health Services	32,000	31,800	31,500	44,900	44,600	43,300	32,600	32,400	31,300
Health Care & Social Assistance	24,000	23,800	23,300						
Leisure & Hospitality	29,200	29,000	30,600	31,000	30,600	31,000	33,000	32,900	36,200
Accommodations & Food Services							29,100	29,000	32,400
Food Services & Drinking Places				24,100	23,500	25,300	25,000	24,600	25,700
Other Services (except Pub. Adm.)	11,900	11,800	11,900	14,100	14,000	14,000	11,300	11,300	11,400
Total Government	44,600	44,700	44,400	80,300	79,800	80,400	58,000	58,000	57,500
Federal Government	2,100	2,100	2,200	9,800	9,800	9,500	8,400	8,400	8,300
State Government	10,400	10,400	10,800	33,700	33,500	34,700	21,900	21,900	22,200
Local Government	32,100	32,200	31,400	36,800	36,500	36,200	27,700	27,700	27,000

March 2009 Unemployment Rates for Metropolitan Statistical Areas

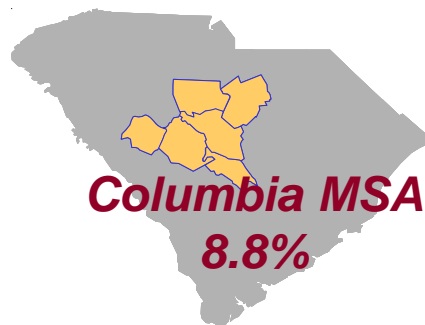
Greenville

Greenville County
Laurens County
Pickens County



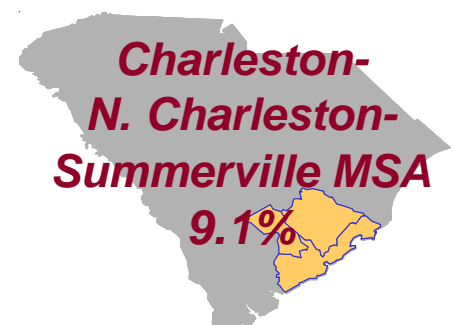
Columbia

Calhoun County
Fairfield County
Kershaw County
Lexington County
Richland County
Saluda County



Charleston-North Charleston-Summerville

Berkeley County
Charleston County
Dorchester County



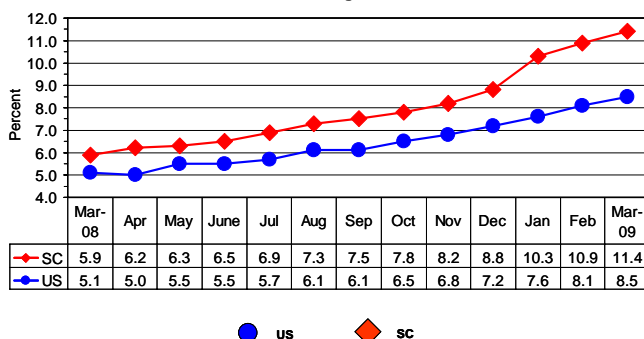
Estimated Number of Manufacturing Production Workers March 2009

Industry	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Net Change From:	
				Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008
Manufacturing	161,100	164,100	187,700	-3,000	-26,600
Durable Goods	87,100	89,700	104,800	-2,600	-17,700
Nondurable Goods	74,000	74,400	82,900	-400	-8,900

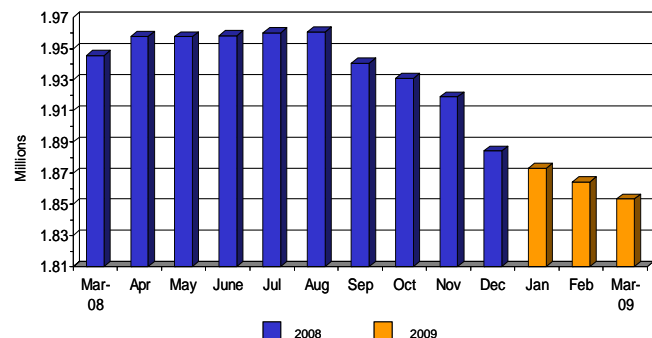
Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment March 2009

Industry	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008	Net Change From:	
				Feb. 2009	Mar. 2008
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1,853,300	1,864,400	1,945,600	-11,100	-92,300
Construction	104,200	107,000	116,500	-2,800	-12,300
Manufacturing	219,400	223,800	246,000	-4,400	-26,600
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	359,400	359,600	377,200	-200	-17,800
Retail Trade	227,300	227,000	241,000	300	-13,700
Information	29,600	29,700	28,400	-100	1,200
Financial Activities	103,600	104,300	106,900	-700	-3,300
Professional and Business Services	210,800	211,400	224,400	-600	-13,600
Educational and Health Services	207,800	207,500	206,600	300	1,200
Leisure and Hospitality	203,900	204,700	219,700	-800	-15,800
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	28,600	28,100	28,200	500	400
Accommodation & Food Services	175,300	176,600	191,500	-1,300	-16,200
Other Services	70,600	71,800	71,000	-1,200	-400
Government	339,800	340,400	344,400	-600	-4,600
Federal Government	30,700	30,700	30,100	0	600
State Government	98,500	98,600	99,800	-100	-1,300
Local Government	210,600	211,100	214,500	-500	-3,900

**US & SC Unemployment Rates
March 2008 through March 2009**



**SC Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment
March 2008 through March 2009**



The **South Carolina Workforce TRENDS** is a monthly publication of the South Carolina Employment Security Commission, Labor Market Information Department.

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GLOSSARY

Benchmark – A statistical technique applied to annual data to eliminate changes that normally occur during the year, due to sampling error and statistical modeling.

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) – BLS is part of the U.S. Department of Labor and functions as the principal data-gathering agency of the federal government in the field of labor economics. BLS collects, processes, analyzes and disseminates data relating to employment, unemployment, the labor force, productivity, prices, family expenditures, wages, industrial relations, and occupational safety and health.

Employment – A count of all persons who worked full or part-time or received pay from a nonagricultural employer for any part of the pay period that included the 12th day of the month. Because this count comes from a survey of employers, persons who work for two different companies would be counted twice. Therefore, nonfarm payroll employment is really a count of the number of jobs, rather than the number of persons employed. Persons may receive pay from a job if they are temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, vacations, or a labor-management dispute. This count is based on where the jobs are located, regardless of where the workers reside, and is sometimes referred to as employment "by place of work." Nonfarm payroll employment data are collected and compiled by the Current Employment Statistics (CES) Survey.

Labor Market Information (LMI) – LMI is a body of knowledge that describes the nature, characteristics, and operation of those mechanisms, institutions, and participants involved in the matching of labor supply with demand. LMI is made up of a variety of economic, social, and demographic information. The information describes current conditions and forecasts conditions at a future date. LMI is comprised of population data, labor force data, occupational data, general economic trends, and career data. LMI information can be used to determine policy and program needs, to allocate resources, and to establish program performance standards.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary

Employment – An estimate of all part- and full-time wage and salary employees who worked during, or received pay from the pay period that included the 12th day of the month. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work.

Seasonal Adjustment – A statistical technique applied to monthly data to eliminate changes that normally occur during the year due to seasonal events, such as changes in the weather, major holidays, shifts in production schedules, harvest times, and the opening and closing of schools.

Unemployment – An estimate of the number of persons who did not have a job, but were available for work and actively seeking work during the calendar week that includes the 12th day of the month.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) – The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 provides the framework for a unique national workforce development system designed to meet the needs of both the nation's businesses and the needs of job seekers or those who want to further their careers. South Carolina has 12 Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA). The Act requires that each local workforce investment area establish a One-Stop Delivery System including at least one full-service or comprehensive one-stop career center. The full-service one-stop career center must have universal access, including a host of mandatory human services, employment related programs and a partnership, inclusive of each mandatory program that exists in the local community.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept of Labor

TECHNICAL NOTES

South Carolina Workforce Trends is prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The current month's estimates are preliminary while all previous data are subject to revision. Industries are classified according to the *North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)*. All estimates

are projected from a first quarter 2008 benchmark.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work. Therefore, these data are not strictly comparable with the labor force data which represent persons by place of residence. Excluded from wage and salary estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees, and unpaid family workers. A small percentage of wage and salary workers cannot be allocated to specific counties because of the nature of their jobs. Therefore, county data will not add to state totals.

Production worker estimates include full and part-time employees working within manufacturing industries. Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and are affected by such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

Labor force data are adjusted to the Current Population Survey benchmark, and represent employment and unemployment by place of residence. These data are not comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series. Workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. Total employment in the labor force also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, and self-employed. The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing total unemployment by the labor force, and is expressed as a percent. Because of the conceptual differences stated above, total employment may in some instances be lower than nonagricultural wage and salary employment.



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION Statewide Workforce Centers

Abbeville

353 Highway 28 Bypass
Abbeville, SC 29620
(864) 459-5486

Aiken

1571 Richland Avenue, East
Aiken, SC 29802
(803) 641-7640

Anderson

309 West Whitner Street
Anderson, SC 29622
(864) 226-6273

Barnwell

248 Wall Street
Barnwell, SC 29812
(803) 259-7116

Beaufort

164 Castlerock Road
Beaufort, SC 29906
(843) 524-3351

Bennettsville

Highway 9-W Cheraw Hwy
Bennettsville, SC 29512
(843) 479-4081

Camden

205 East DeKalb Street
Camden, SC 29020
(803) 432-5153

Charleston

176 Lockwood Boulevard
Charleston, SC 29403
(843) 953-8400

Chester

764 Wilson Street
Chester, SC 29706
(803) 377-8147

Clinton

18 Hazel Drive
Clinton, SC 29325
(864) 833-0142

Coastal

200-A Victory Lane
Conway, SC 29526
(843) 234-9675

Columbia

700 Taylor Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 737-5627

Florence

1558 West Evans Street
Florence, SC 29501
(843) 669-4271

Gaffney

133 Wilmac Road
Gaffney, SC 29342
(864) 489-3112

Georgetown

2704 Highmarket Street
Georgetown, SC 29442
(843) 546-8581

Greenville

706 Pendleton Street
Greenville, SC 29602
(864) 242-3531

Greenwood

519 Monument Street
Greenwood, SC 29648
(864) 223-1681

Hampton

12 Walnut Street
Hampton, SC 29924
(803) 943-3291

Hartsville

1319 South Fourth Street
Hartsville, SC 29551
(843) 332-1554

Kingstree

530 Martin Luther King Jr.
Kingstree, SC 29556
(843) 354-7436

Lancaster

705 North White Street
Lancaster, SC 29720
(803) 285-6966

Lexington

714 South Lake Drive,
Suite 140
Lexington, SC 29071
(803) 359-6131

Liberty

317 Summit Drive
Liberty, SC 29657
(864) 843-9512

Marion

2413 East Highway 76
Marion, SC 29571
(843) 423-6900

Moncks Corner

107 East Main Street
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
(843) 761-4400

Newberry

833 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108
(803) 276-2110

Orangeburg

1804 Joe S. Jeffords Highway
Orangeburg, SC 29116
(803) 534-3336

Ridgeland

7774 West Main Street
Ridgeland, SC 29936
(843) 726-3750

Rock Hill

1228 Fincher Road
Rock Hill, SC 29731
(803) 328-3881

Seneca

11091 Radio Station Road
Seneca, SC 29679
(864) 882-5638

Spartanburg

364 South Church Street (ES)
440 South Church Street (UI)
Spartanburg, SC 29304
(864) 573-7525 ES
(864) 573-7231 UI

Summerville

2885 West 5th North Street
Summerville, SC 29484
(843) 821-0695

Sumter

29 East Calhoun Street
Sumter, SC 29151
(803) 773-7359

Union

440 Duncan Highway
Union, SC 29379
(864) 427-5672

Walterboro

101 Mable T. Willis Blvd
Walterboro, SC 29488
(843) 538-8980

Winnsboro

1009 Kincaid Bridge Road
Winnsboro, SC 29180
(803) 635-2292



Sites of Interest on the Internet

**SC Employment Security
Commission**
www.sces.org

**SC Labor Market
Information**
www.sces.org/lmi

SC Government
www.sc.gov

Federal Jobs
www.fedworld.gov

Career Voyages
www.careervoyages.gov

Job Bank USA
www.jobbankusa.com

Career One-Stop
www.careeronestop.org

Career Builder
www.careerbuilder.com

Job Fair Info
www.jobexpo.com
www.cfgcareerfaairs.com

Teaching Jobs
www.k-12jobs.com

Former Military
militarytransitiontimes.com
www.acap.army.mil

Jobs for Women
www.womenforhire.com

**Hispanic Alliance &
Career Enhancement**
www.hace-usa.org

This issue reflects labor market information for MARCH 2009, the most current data available.

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Total Printed: 3,600
Unit Cost: \$0.60

May 2009

South Carolina Employment Security Commission

Labor Market Information

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Address Service Requested



Are you looking for a
job or new career?

Let us help.

Visit your local South
Carolina Employment
Security Commission
Workforce Center

*(Addresses and phone numbers
of locations are listed
on page 15)*

You can also visit us
online at
www.sces.org

Veterans Preference

Federal law prescribes preferential treatment for veterans seeking employment. Each of the South Carolina Employment Security Commission Workforce Centers has a Local Veterans Employment Representative (LVER) whose primary responsibility is to ensure that veterans receive, on a preferential basis, the full employment services prescribed by law.

Disabled Veterans Outreach Program

Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialists (DVOPs) are assigned to medium and large-sized workforce centers, where intensive employment and training services are provided for disabled veterans and other veterans in need of special services.



SCESC Employment Services

Employment Representatives are familiar with local job market possibilities, trained in placement interviewing, and can give helpful suggestions on how to improve the chances of being hired by an employer.

Employment Representatives can offer resumé creation or critiquing services, as well as advice on training, education, and skills enhancement. They can also provide a variety of valuable Labor Market Information. Workforce Centers offer free fax, e-mail, and copying services for clients.

**SCESC LABOR MARKET
INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
THE LEADING SOURCE FOR
WORKFORCE INFORMATION**